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SRI S. PAKKIRISWAMY PILLAI :—" May I know whether a joint report by the two engineers has been sent to the Government and, if so, whether it will be made available for perusal by hon. Members of this House? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I have already stated that they have not yet met. The present proposal is for them to meet and then only the question of a report will come in."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" On which date was this decision taken that the two respective engineers should meet and discuss this problem and how long do they propose to delay like this? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I cannot give any date with reference to the question. The Government of India have suggested the meeting of the two Chief Engineers belonging to the respective States and they have been corresponding with each other to agree on a date and a place to meet. It is being pushed through as expeditiously as possible and there is no delay on the part of anybody in respect of this matter."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" May I know whether I can at least have an assurance from this Cabinet that the meeting of the engineers will take place before the life of this House expires? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I do not see any reason why the hon. Member should be so sceptic."

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" With regard to this matter a committee has been formed consisting of ryots of Chingleput and North Arcot districts. Will these persons be allowed to take part in the conference of the two Chief Engineers belonging to the respective Madras and Mysore States or at least a representative of them? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" It is not possible to do so because the Chief Minister of the Mysore State has objected to it. It is purely a technical matter. Technical men are meeting first and after we receive a report from them, we will consider other ways of arranging a meeting with either the representatives of the ryots concerned or the representatives of this House and so on and so forth."

Construction of roads in Ponneri taluk

*2212 *Q.*—SRI S. PAKKIRISWAMY PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the proposal for the formation of the metalled road connecting Sathyavedu and Bethelapuram in Ponneri taluk, Chingleput district, was sanctioned;

(*b*) what are the reasons for not having the road work completed; and

(*c*) when the road will be completed?

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THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" (a) There was no such proposal. There is no village by name ' Bethelapuram ' in Ponneri taluk, Chingleput district. Evidently, Bathalavallam village is meant. Sathyavedu and Bathalavallam are already connected by district board roads through Arur and Madarapakkam. There is no proposal to metal the earthen sections in this route.

" (b) & (c) Do not arise."

* 2213 Q.—SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether the formation of a road from Cherukara to Nattimangalam in Walluvanad taluk has been taken up for execution ; and

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the work and the stage at which it stands?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" (a) No, Sir.

" (b) Does not arise."

Behaviour of jail staff towards prisoners

9·10 a.m. * 2214 Q.—SRI M. JAGANNATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the jail staff are given any special instructions, specially with regard to their general behaviour towards prisoners; and

(b) if so, what they are?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) & (b) Rules 98–101 and 105–112 in the Madras Prison and Reformatory Manual, Volume II, regulate the conduct and general behaviour of the jail staff towards prisoners. Besides these, certain standing instructions have been issued by the Inspector-General of Prisons also in the matter and these are contained in instructions 176, 177 (a) and (b) of the Madras Prison and Reformatory Manual, Volume III. Apart from these, no other special instructions have been given to the jail staff in this regard."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" 176-வது விதியில் என்ன சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்று மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொல்வார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" அந்தப் புத்தகத்தை எடுத்துப் பார்க்குமாறு கனம் அங்கத்தினரை நான் கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன்."

SRI M. JAGANNATHAN :—" Is it a fact, Sir, that our Prison department is the only one department in which an officer is allowed to enter on his duties without previous training or preparation? If so, whether the Government will see to it that such officers are given proper training before they are allowed to enter on their duties? "